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(54) **Compositions for use in the treatment of aphthous ulcers and other mucocutaneous disorders.**

(57) A method of treating aphthous ulcers and other mucocutaneous disorders is disclosed. The method comprises contacting the mucocutaneous disorder with a composition in the form of a paste, solution, gel, quick-disintegrating table, mouthwash, ointment, cream, powder, adhesive patch, aerosolized spray, lozenge, troche, dentifrice, or dental floss that contains an effective amount of one or more compounds having the following biochemical/biological properties: mediator release inhibitors, 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors, leukotriene antagonists, and platelet-activating factor antagonists.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	WO-A-90 09989 (ROTTA RESEARCH LABORATORIUM S.P.A.)	1,3	A61K31/33 A61K31/00
Y	* page 1, paragraph 2 - page 2, paragraph 1 *	4,14-20	

X	EP-A-0 416 925 (GLAXO GROUP LIMITED)	1-3,14,15	
	* page 3, line 16 - line 37 *		
	* page 4, line 20 - line 58 *		

X	US-A-4 228 173 (HUGH CAIRNS ET AL.)	1-3	
Y	* column 5, line 49 - column 6, line 14 *	4,14-20	

X	DIGESTIVE DISEASES AND SCIENCES, vol.36, no.2, February 1991 pages 179 - 184 CHARITY C. FOX ET AL. 'Modulation of mediator release from human intestinal mast cells by sulfasalazine and 5-aminosalicylic acid'	1,3	
	* abstract *		

Y	BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY, vol.32, no.22, 1983 pages 3325 - 3333 A.KHANDWALA ET AL. 'RHC 3288 (1-methyl-2(1,3,4-oxadiazol-2(3H)-one-5-yl)benzimidazole) and related compounds'	4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) A61K
	* abstract *		
	* page 3325, left column *		

Y	INT.J.IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY, vol.4, no.4, 1982 page 343 PAUL SIMINOFF ET AL. 'BL-5255 inhibits mediator release from mast cells and phosphodiesterase activity'	4	

-The present search report has been drawn up for all claims-			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 19 July 1994	Examiner Tzschoppe, D
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

EPO FORM 1501 (01/92) (P.O.C.M.)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

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- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: mentioned in item 1.



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1,2,14-20 (partially); 3,4
2. Claims 1,2,14-20 (partially); 5,6
3. Claims 1,2,14-20 (partially); 7,8
4. Claims 1,2,14-20 (partially); 9,10
5. Claims 1,14-20 (partially), 11-13

The common concept linking the claimed different classes of compounds (mediator release inhibitors, 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors, leukotriene antagonists, PAF-antagonists and the compounds of claims 11-13) seems to rely in that the same diseases are treated by these different classes of compounds.

As the use of one of these classes of compounds (mediator release inhibitors) for the treatment of diseases falling within the scope of "other mucocutaneous disorders", e.g. ulcers or ulcerative colitis, is already known, the abovementioned common concept is not novel, and therefore cannot be inventive in the meaning of Art. 82 EPC.